

Application No.: 10/780,087

Docket No.: 65856-0054

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending. Claims 1, 12, and 26 are independent claims. In the Office Action, claims 1, 3-10, 30 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. 6,266,527 ("Mintz"). Claims 12, 13, 19-29, and 32-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by published U.S. application 2002/0119769 ("Heinonen"). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Mintz in view of Heinonen. Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mintz. Claims 13-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heinonen. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for lacking proper antecedent basis for the claim. Claims 35-37 are newly added.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during a personal interview with Applicants' representatives on July 19, 2005. During that interview, the Examiner indicated that certain amendments to Applicants' independent claims would overcome the afore-mentioned prior art rejections. Claims 1, 12, and 26 have been amended accordingly. Further, claim 31 has been amended to cure the afore-mentioned Section 112 rejection. All pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If the Examiner believes that a personal interview with Applicants' representative would advance prosecution of this application, or that it is necessary to address any informalities in the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

For payment of any fee that may be due with this response, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw, under Order No. 65856-0054. To the extent necessary, a petition for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made, the fee for which should be charged to the aforementioned account.

Dated: July 21, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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